GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:814
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2005
GASIFICATION OF LIGNITE RESERVES
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to study and survey gasification of lignite reserves discovered in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between the State of Rajasthan and the Gas Authority of India Ltd. (GAIL) in the matter;

(d) if so, the details in this regard;

(e) whether any foreign firm has also been involved in the above work; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS & PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR)

(a) to (d): GAIL(India) Limited (GAIL) have initialed a Memorandum of Understanding with Government of Rajasthan for the joint evaluation of the in situ Lignite gassification potential in the Barmer region of Rajasthan.

(e) & (f) GAIL have also signed a Memorandum of Cooperation(MoC) with M/s Ergo Energy Technologies Inc., Canada to establish a Lignite Gasification Plant in Barmer District of Rajasthan. The MoC is aimed at developing a long-term working relationship between GAIL and Ergo Energy aimed at enhancing the level of development of large coal resources that, for economic or technical reasons, are not exploited by conventional methods of coal/lignite mining.